



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**JURY FINDS ALABAMA MAN GUILTY OF
SMUGGLING METHAMPHETAMINE INTO THE UNITED STATES**

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that a jury has found 21 year-old Emil Eugenio Sierra of Enterprise, Alabama, guilty this afternoon on methamphetamine smuggling charges.

In a jury trial before United States District Judge Alia Moses Ludlum in Del Rio, Texas, Sierra was convicted of entering the United States through the Eagle Pass Port of Entry while transporting more than twenty-two kilograms of methamphetamine. During a search of the defendant's vehicle, inspectors discovered six packages of methamphetamine concealed in an after-market speaker box. The evidence showed that the defendant was traveling with Angel Quiles Lopez, 25, also from Enterprise, Alabama. The trial evidence showed that Mr. Lopez, who has already pleaded guilty to Conspiracy to Possess Methamphetamine with Intent to Distribute, was driving a second vehicle in which another eighteen packages of methamphetamine were discovered concealed in the firewall.

Mr. Sierra and Mr. Lopez each face between ten years and life in federal prison. Sentencing for Mr. Sierra has been set for December 6, 2004. Sentencing for Mr. Lopez has been set for November 22, 2004.

This case was investigated by the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the Bureau of Customs & Border Protection (CBP). Assistant United States Attorneys John A. Peralta and Jeremy Sibert prosecuted the case on behalf of the government.

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